

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. Otto Grotewohl had thought of postponing his leave to the coming winter on learning the results of the Bermuda Conference. On 10 November, he had a talk with Walter Ulbricht who had just returned from the USSR. Immediately after that talk Grotewohl said that he had to leave without delay and gave orders for a special plane to be made available to him through the good offices of the Soviet High Commission. From this, Grotewohl's entourage inferred that Ulbricht had communicated to him an invitation or summons to Moscow.

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2. [redacted] Ulbricht managed to improve his standing in Moscow. It was particularly noted that during a short talk between Ulbricht and Semenov the latter was much more polite than on previous occasions. Another proof of the firm position Ulbricht regained may be seen in the fact that he and not Heinrich Rau became acting prime minister during Grotewohl's absence.

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